

**One-day Workshop on**  
**“International Conventions on Chemicals and Waste”**  
**West Bengal Pollution Control Board, Kolkata**



CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI), organized one day workshop on “International Conventions on Chemicals and Waste” on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023 at West Bengal Pollution Control Board, Kolkata

. The workshop was attended by CPCB, WBPCB, scientists from CSIR Labs, researchers, Industries and NGOs. **Dr. Atul Vaidya**, Director, CSIR-NEERI, Nagpur delivered the welcome address and gave the opening remarks. **Dr. A Ramesh Kumar**, Principal Scientist, CSIR-NEERI, Nagpur gave a brief overview about the workshop followed by a special address by **Er. M. K. Biswas**, Scientist E & Regional Director, CPCB, Kolkata. **Dr. Rajesh Kumar**, IPS and Member Secretary, West Bengal Pollution Control Board (WBPCB) also addressed the workshop. The inaugural address was articulated by **Dr. Kalyan Rudra**, Chairman, WBPCB. **Dr. Dipanjali**

**Majumdar**, Principal Scientist, CSIR-NEERI, Kolkata proposed the vote of thanks for inaugural session.

The workshop had two technical sessions. Technical Session – I started with presentation by **Dr. Atul Vaidya** on “Basal, Rotterdam, Stockholm, Minamata and Montreal Protocol/Conventions - An overview”. The second speaker **Dr. Sukumar Devotta**, Former Director, CSIR-NEERI gave a presentation on “Montreal Protocol on Ozone depleting substances: An overview” followed by the presentation on “Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) - An overview” by **Dr. A. Ramesh Kumar**.

In Technical Session – II, four speakers spoke on various topics. **Dr. Jitendra Sharma**, GEF Task Manager, UNEP, Geneva joined online and spoke on - UNEP’s projects in the area of “Chemicals and Waste” followed by presentation on “Trends of POPs in ambient air of India” by **Dr. Paromita Chakroborty**, SRM University, Chennai. **Dr. K. P. Prathish**, Sr. Scientist, CSIR-NIIST, Trivandrum spoke on “Dioxins and Furans emissions in India Current status, challenges and scope for reduction through BAT/BEP”. The last lecture was delivered by **Dr. Devendra Kumar Patel**, Sr. Principal Scientist, CSIR-IITR, Lucknow.

Questions/comments from participants include lack of awareness among regulators and policy makers, absence of hazardous chemical management management rules in India, need for national level POPs monitoring, strengthening of POPs monitoring capacity etc. Participants from Academic asked questions about long range atmospheric transport of POPs, effect of glacier melting and climate change on POPs mobilization, and the use of PFAS in various products of everyday use. These questions were answered by speakers.

The concluding session was chaired by Dr. Sukumar Devotta, Dr. Ramesh Kumar, Dr. Prathish, Dr. Devendra Patel, and Dr. Paromita Chakraborty. They discussed on the importance of such workshops and their significance in implementing the various objectives of all the international conventions related to the chemicals and waste.